665 and Corps Committee can also be formed when
668 the size of the branch is large enough to warrant it. Corps branches can also be broken down to teams and groups whenever necessary. These basic level organs of the Corps not only serve to agitate and mobilize youth and the masses, but they also act as a substitute organ for the Party hwere Party organs are lacking.

B. The Young Pioneers.

665 The Young Pioneers as an organization com-
857 prising youth between the ages of 9 and 15 years
668 is entrusted to the leadership of the New Democrati Youth Corps. In the North China region the Pioneers claimed a membership of 16,000 as early as June 1950. The theme of the Young Pioneer was originally centered on patriotism. Since 1953, emphasis has shifted to cultural training and to further expansion. National membership was[36] given in March 1955 at 70 millions, about 15 per cent of the nation's youth in that age group.

SECTION TWO: POLITICAL CONTROL

665 The Communist Party exercises its political control in the North China Region through a network of controls, not limited to the Party organs alone, but which extend to government, industrial and mass organizations. This control is insured by placing Communist Party members in key positions in those organizations, by reserving for the Party all policy-making power, and by agitation and mobilization of various political and social forces.

36. Ibid., January 31, 1950, p. 3.

EMPLOYMENT AND OCCUPATION

Two-thirds, aggregating 146, of the 220 persons were gainfully employed. Of this number 72 were males and 74 were females. The following table gives the distribution of employment and unemployment among persons of different age-groups.

Table. 5—Distribution of Employment and Unemployment, by Age and Sex

Age group		Under 5	5-	10-	15-	20-	30-	40-	50-	60-	70-	All ages
Male	Gainfully employed	—	3	7	8	11	22	12	6	3	—	72
	Unemployed	14	15	9	—	1	1	—	1	—	1	42
Total		14	18	16	8	12	23	12	7	3	1	114
Female	Gainfully employed	—	3	15	8	12	19	9	4	3	1	74
	Unemployed	14	7	2	—	—	1	3	2	2	1	32
Total		14	10	17	8	12	20	12	6	5	2	106

While none under five was employed, persons in the 15-20 age group were, however, all engaged in some form of employment. This is true of both sexes. The only difference between the two sexes that appears in the present study is that more male members than female of the 5-10 and 10-20 age groups were unemployed. It seems that whereas the boys were unable to find suitable employment, young girls were contented to occupy themselves with manual work at home, thus helping their elders by contributing some of their pay to the family income.

Occupations of the employed persons may be classified as in Table 6.

It should be mentioned that by occupation is meant here any employment that is gainful to the person so employed. Apprenticeship, for instance, can hardly be called an occupation in the same sense as tailoring or spinning, but as an apprentice always stays away from home and thereby enables his family to save some expense on him, not to say the training he receives,

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he is, therefore, decidedly a person with an occupation. Coal-picking is likewise considered an occupation, because it is some service rendered generally by the children in order either to save for the family some expense on fuel or through selling it to add some income to the family. Though, strictly speaking, both are not occupations as is generally understood, yet they are undeniably gainful employment from the standpoint of the family.

From Table 6, one finds that more than half of the employed males were rickshamen, while four-fifths of the employed females were engaged in sock-finishing, artificial flower-making, yarn-spinning and tailoring. It should be observed that the persons listed in this table had frequently more than one occupation, for employments of a similar nature or requiring little skill are often exchangeable. Thus, the yarn-spinner might, at times, take up yarn-spinning, while the rickshaman might temporarily turn into a carrier. That there should have been such a strong representation of women in manual occupations may be explained by the fact that the households for which the accounts were kept were selected with a view to supplementing the study of the Peking handicraft trades. They earned their pittance, in order to make some contribution to the insufficient income of their husbands or sons. As regards the gainfully employed males, however, their occupations were diversified, though the rickshamen alone represented one half of them. The fact that there should have been so many rickshamen in the samples taken up by the inquiry is not only interesting but calls for some consideration. Though it should be confessed that such a predominance of rickshamen among the employed males was quite unexpected, yet after a careful study of the labour conditions of Peking in general and of its manual workers in particular, the phenomenon was in fact not so peculiar or abnormal as it appeared. In order to enable one to understand this phenomenon, it is necessary to discuss briefly at this juncture a few outstanding facts concerning labour in Peking.

In the first place, the handicraft trades, of which a study was made by this Department, were essentially those of women. In